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(54) Title: VIRULENCE-ASSOCIATED ADHESINS

(57) Abstract: Virulence-associated antigens involved in adhesion have been identified in several organisms: *Haemophilus influenzae* biogroup *aegyptius*; *Escherichia coli* K1; *EHEC E.coli*; *Actinobacillus actinomycetemcomitans*; *Haemophilus somnis*; *Haemophilus ducreyi*; *EPEC E. coli*; EA EC *E. coli*; uropathogenic *E. coli*; *Shigella flexneri*; *Brucella melitensis*; *Brucella suis*; *Ralstonia solanacearum*; *Sinorhizobium meliloti*; *Bradorhizobium japonicum*; and *Burkholderia fungorum*. Although the degree of sequence identity between the adhesins is low, they share a common arrangement of domains from N-terminus to C-terminus, namely: a leader peptide; a globular head; a coiled-coil region; and a transmembrane anchor region.